



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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9
18 APRIL 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~

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DAILY BRIEF
19 APRIL 1965

1. Vietnam

There is still no direct evidence of major new Soviet hardware shipments to North Vietnam.

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In addition, preliminary analysis of U-2 photography taken Saturday indicates that four of the six launch positions at the SAM site southeast of Hanoi may be completed. Other important work at the site remains to be done.

The Soviet - North Vietnamese communiqué issued over the weekend suggests that the stage has been set for announcement of the dispatch to Hanoi of Soviet military personnel, including SAM experts.

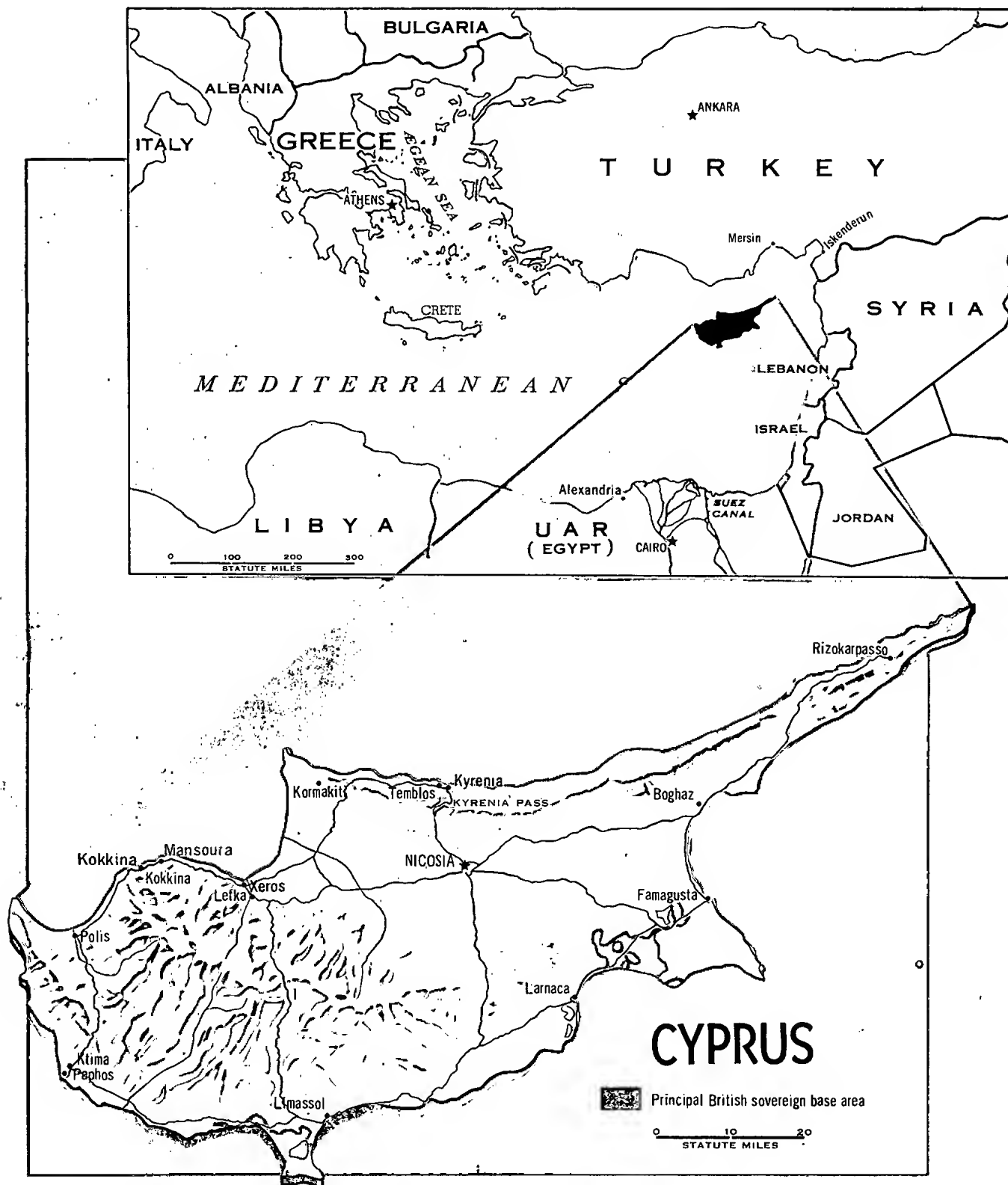
Hanoi has publicly rejected both the 17-nation appeal and the "UN mediation offer." It once again insists that Pham Van Dong's four-point program must be "recognized" before conditions favorable to talks can be created. These points include a US withdrawal and an end to air strikes in the North. Both Peiping and Moscow have specifically endorsed the plan.

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2. South Vietnam

Viet Cong military activity remains at a reduced level. South Vietnamese ground forces, sweeping the Viet Cong base area which was given a saturation bombing last week, have captured substantial quantities of abandoned materiel, foodstuffs, and documents. Several permanent camp sites were destroyed.

Premier Quat's C-47 made a forced landing Saturday. Both engines suddenly went out, but the pilot succeeded in getting one restarted.

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3. Cyprus

A Greek freighter, Eleni, sailed from Alexandria this morning, apparently carrying additional SAM equipment to Cyprus. (See map.) Warheads may be included this time, since the ship had been berthed near some warhead crates.

The Eleni was at Limassol, in southern Cyprus, last Tuesday and was unloaded amidst unprecedented security precautions. President Makarios told Ambassador Belcher last week that the Greek Cypriots had "no choice" but to bring the Soviet SAMs to the island.

This action will surely alarm the Turks who are already concerned about the new quarantine placed on the Turkish Cypriot quarter of Nicosia. Ankara is trying to bring counterpressures to bear on the Greeks and has announced the expulsion of all Greek nationals still in Turkey.

4. UAR

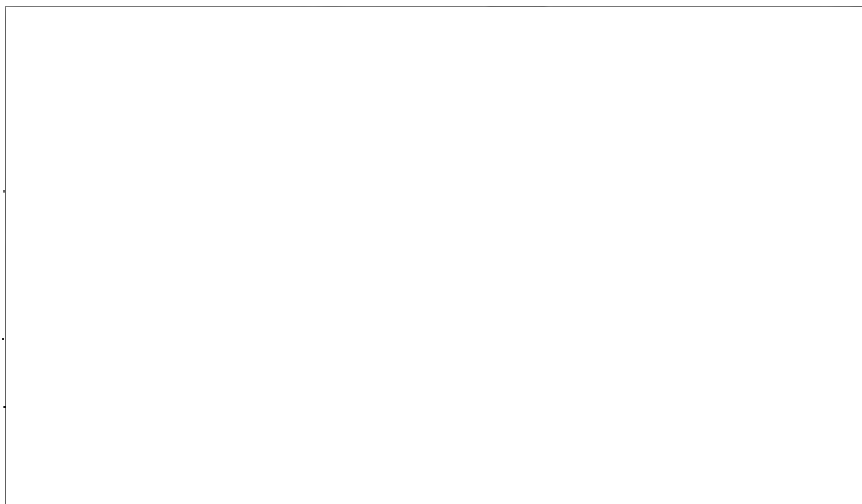
Nasir yesterday assured Assistant Secretary Talbot that Cairo is not "now" sending arms to the Congo rebels.

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Nasir was conciliatory on other matters. He appeared reconciled to the US-Israeli arms deal and indicated that withdrawals from the Jordan headwaters would not greatly exceed those called for in the Johnston Plan.

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5. USSR

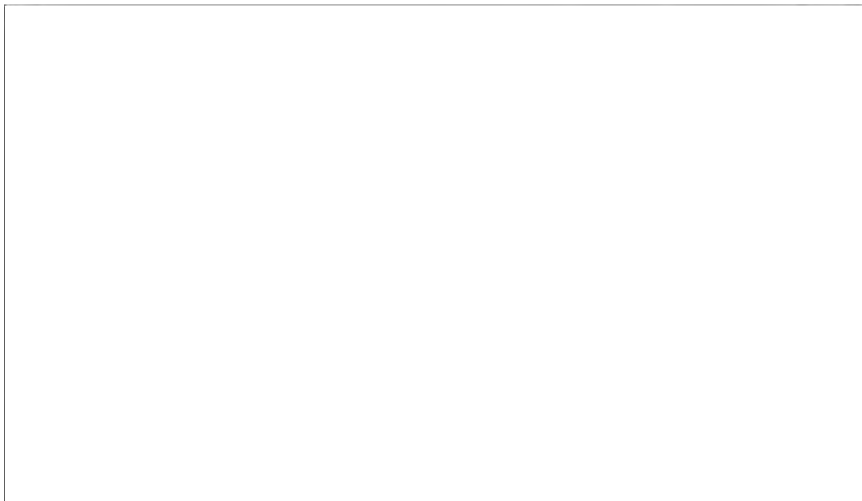


6. Rumania

The Rumanians have apparently concluded that little progress is possible just now in bilateral relations with the US.

The collapse of the protracted negotiations with Firestone for a much-wanted synthetic rubber plant has added to Rumanian frustrations over delays in other commercial deals with US firms.

7. Burma



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